

result of parents and students and families out there in America compelling Congress to do something because this country has had enough.

This country has not just had enough of the mass shootings but of the hundred-plus people who die every day from gunshot wounds—suicides, accidental shootings, homicides—all of which can be prevented through limiting the access by dangerous people or people who are going through a crisis to weaponry and particularly weaponry of mass destruction.

So I think that message from the American public we heard last summer—it is not going away. The good news is, we found common ground. And right now in the U.S. Congress, you have no choice if you want to get something done but to find common ground. We found it. I don't think that anybody who voted for it paid any substantial political price. I think there was only political upside to supporting a compromise that was wildly popular.

If you remember, Senator McCONNELL showed a PowerPoint presentation to the Republican caucus in May of last year and showed his Republican colleagues how popular all of the things that we voted on last summer were—red flag laws, stopping domestic abusers from getting guns—no political downside in continuing to make progress when it comes to making our communities safer.

As we live amidst another moment in American history where the country is recognizing the unique problem of mass shootings; as we think about 20-some-odd days gone in the year with 40 mass shootings already; when we think about the fear that our kids live in when they go to school, wondering whether they will be next, and now the fear that workplaces have and churchgoers have of whether they will be next, it is more reason for us to make 2023 a year in which we don't follow the pre-2022 precedent of doing nothing but we follow the 2022 precedent of finding the common ground between Republicans and Democrats to make this country safer.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT S. RES 13

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that S. Res. 13, submitted earlier today, be held at the desk; that following morning business tomorrow, the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that at 1:45 p.m., the Senate vote on adoption of the resolution; that if the resolution is agreed to, the preamble be considered agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 81, S. 82, and H.R. 300

Mr. MURPHY. I understand there are three bills at the desk and I ask for their first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 81) to provide a moratorium on all Federal research grants provided to any institution of higher education or other research institute that is conducting gain-of-function research.

A bill (S. 82) to protect social security benefits and military pay and require that the United States Government to prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached.

A bill (H.R. 300) to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of settlement agreements, and for other purposes.

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I ask for a second reading and in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING WALTER ULLOA

• Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life of Walter Ulloa, a trailblazing figure in the media and entertainment industry, a role model to many in California, and my personal friend.

Walter grew up in Brawley, CA, at a time when Latinos were still segregated in his community. He graduated from the University of Southern California in 1970, before earning his law degree from Loyola School of Law in 1975.

After earning his degrees, Walter embarked on what would become a nearly five-decade career in media, playing a pivotal role in the growth of Spanish-language television and radio across the United States.

At KMEX in Los Angeles, there were some early signs that Walter's work ethic, intellect, and mind for media would make him successful. During his 13 years there, he worked as operations manager, production manager, news director, local sales manager, and account executive before venturing out to create his own projects.

In 1996, he cofounded Entravision, a now global Latino media, marketing, and technology company. For over 25 years, he served as chairman and chief executive officer at Entravision, where he grew his young company to own over 100 television and radio stations, as well as digital platforms throughout the United States. Whether in Los An-

geles or across the country, if you watched or listened to Spanish-language media in the last five decades, there is a very good chance you have Walter Ulloa to thank.

But away from his industry impact, communities in California knew him for his generosity and his commitment to public service. So respected was Walter for his expertise and appreciation of the arts, that President Barack Obama appointed him to the board of trustees for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

For more than 20 years, I had the privilege of knowing and working with Walter. I always admired how he generously gave his time and contributed resources to help increase Latino civic engagement and voting in California. The fact that after growing up in a segregated community in the 1950s, Walter could go on to not only an extraordinarily successful career, but to help future Latino communities prosper time and time again is a testament to his character.

The life of Walter Ulloa is nothing less than the American dream come true, from his educational and economic success, his philanthropy, and his service to our country. He will be missed.

Angela and I send our love to his wife Alexandra Seros and son Bruno Seros-Ulloa and to all those whose lives were touched by his service.●

##### REMEMBERING DR. ROBERT COPE

• Mr. RISCH. Madam President, today I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Robert Cope, a public servant and cattle veterinarian of Lemhi County, ID, who lost his battle to cancer last month. I had the great fortune of being friends and working with Dr. Cope through the many public and private roles he served. Those who knew Dr. Robert Cope affectionately called him "Cope."

Cope dedicated his whole life to serving agricultural families after he received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Kansas State University in 1975. Shortly, thereafter, he moved to Idaho, where his clients became his extended family. Cope owned and operated the Blue Cross Vet Clinic in Salmon, ID, for 44 years. He loved children and the youth of his community, and he supported them through 4-H and his veterinarian practice. Idaho ranchers can share countless stories of Cope's service at all hours of the day and night. Even as his cancer progressed, Cope offered his advice and expertise to his loyal clients.

Cope served as Lemhi County Commissioner for 14 years and sat on many committees related to natural resources and environmental challenges. In March of 2002, he was inducted in the Eastern Idaho Agricultural Hall of Fame.

With wisdom, common-sense, and humor, Cope tackled life head-on and was never afraid to address tough issues and find collaborative solutions.

After having a particularly challenging experience with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife over a wolf-killed calf, Cope was tasked with writing a Memorandum of Understanding—MOU—to allow the State to allocate Federal funds to livestock owners who lost cattle due to predation.

When I served as Idaho's Governor, I led a collaborative effort to adopt the Idaho Roadless Rule. Cope assisted in that effort and served on the Idaho Roadless Commission. I trusted his opinion and judgement, and he provided invaluable insights from a local perspective in the development and implementation of that rule.

For Cope, his life was about serving people and sustaining the Western ranching and farming lifestyle. God broke the mold when he made Cope, and he will be missed by many in Lemhi County and the State of Idaho. Rest in Peace, Cope.●

#### RECOGNIZING PALOUSE ANIMAL WELLNESS AND SURGERY

● Mr. RISCH. Madam President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor Palouse Animal Wellness and Surgery—"PAWS"—as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for January 2023.

PAWS, originally named Garfield Street Pet Clinic and located on its namesake in Moscow, was founded in 1995, by Dr. Don Kubasch and his wife, Jan. Dr. Kathy Miller and her husband Jim bought the practice in 2002 when Dr. Kubasch retired. Dr. Miller worked at the clinic as a technician while studying at the Washington State University School of Veterinary Medicine. The Millers built a new clinic on Main Street in Moscow in 2005, renaming the practice to Palouse Animal Wellness and Surgery, PAWS. Jim joined the practice full time in 2021 as the director of business operations.

PAWS has become an integral part of the local community; its owners and staff pride themselves on excellence in service, education, and enhancement. Along with providing educational and employment opportunities to veterinary students, for over a decade, PAWS has maintained accreditation with the American Animal Hospital Association. This voluntary accreditation, achieved by a mere 15 percent of businesses in the United States and Canada, means PAWS' patients receive the best care possible in state-of-the-art facilities, from a team that meets high standards in every aspect of veterinary medicine.

The Millers' high standards come from their love for their community. Both Jim and Kathy are Moscow natives, who graduated from Moscow High School and the University of

Idaho. Over the years, they raised four children in this close-knit community who have all worked at the clinic in some capacity.

Congratulations to the Miller family and all of the employees at PAWS on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for January 2023. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 159. An act to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring, and for other purposes.

H.R. 300. An act to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of settlement agreements, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 159. An act to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills and joint resolution were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 4. Joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

H.R. 22. An act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from sending petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China, and for other purposes.

H.R. 23. An act to rescind certain balances made available to the Internal Revenue Service.

H.R. 26. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

#### MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following resolution was ordered held at the desk, by unanimous consent:

S. Res. 13. Resolution raising awareness and encouraging the prevention of stalking by designating January 2023 as "National Stalking Awareness Month".

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 300. An act to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of settlement agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 81. A bill to provide a moratorium on all Federal research grants provided to any institution of higher education or other research institute that is conducting gain-of-function research.

S. 82. A bill to protect social security benefits and military pay and require that the United States Government to prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-21. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor/Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indefinite Delivery and Indefinite Quantity Contracts for Federal-aid Construction" (RIN2125-AF83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-22. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Priorities List" (FRL No. 10435-01-OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-23. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Oregon; Updates to Materials Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 10172-01-R10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-24. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; California; San Diego County Air Pollution Control District" (FRL No. 10031-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-25. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; California; San Diego County Air Pollution Control District; San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District" (FRL No. 10004-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-26. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Site Remediation" (FRL No. 4866.1-02-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-27. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reconsideration of the 2020 National